Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

When a golfer takes a shot from a tee box or fairway, the golfer swings on grass. When the golfer takes a shot from a bunker, the golfer swings on sand. If the golfer's foot slips on the ground during swinging, the golfer will make an erroneous shot. While the golfer goes round, the golfer walks on the fairway and the rough, which rises and falls. When the golfer's foot slips during walking, the golfer has an increased burden on the feet. To prevent from slipping during swinging and walking, the golfer wears golf shoes (so-called spikes) having a plurality of spikes formed on the bottom surface thereof. Each spike has a single pin formed at the center of the lower surface of the disk-shaped flange thereof and is made of a metal or ceramic material. The spike cuts into the grass, thus preventing the golfer's foot from slipping thereon.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Frequently, the golfer is required to walk not only on the grass and the sand, but also on a hard ground paved with asphalt or concrete, for example, a path located between the putting green and the tee box of a subsequent hole, a club house, and the like. The spike does not cut into the hard ground, thus being incapable of sufficiently preventing the golfer's foot from slipping thereon. Further, the spikes give the golfer a feeling that pressure is applied upward to the

A3 Cont'd

golfer's feet. Thus, the spikes are not comfortable to wear. Furthermore, the spike may injure the lawn (lawn on putting green in particular).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A4

To solve the above-described disadvantages, a soft-type spike has been proposed and is coming into popular use. The soft-type spike is formed of a molded elastic material such as synthetic resin. The area of the part of the soft-type spike that contacts the ground is increased by forming many projections thereon and shaping it trapezoidally in its vertical sectional configuration. An example of a soft-type spike is disclosed in Japanese Registered Utility Model Publication No. 3027022. However, the soft-type spike is incapable of sufficiently preventing the golfer's foot from slipping on hard ground. Furthermore, there is still room for improvement of the soft-type spike to prevent slipping on wet ground in particular.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A5

A golf shoe not having a spike but having an elastic projection formed on the bottom surface thereof is disclosed in Japanese Patent Publication 6-22482. The elastic projection prevents the golfer's foot from slipping on hard ground but hardly cuts into the lawn. Therefore, the golf shoes are incapable of sufficiently preventing the golfer's foot from slipping during swinging.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A6

A golf shoe having a spike and a projection on the surface which contacts the ground is disclosed in Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 11-89605. In the above golf shoes, the spike mainly prevents slipping on, and the projection mainly prevents slipping on hard ground.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A7

However, the golf shoes disclosed in Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. 11-89605 are not satisfactory in preventing slipping on both grass and hard ground. The above golf shoes have another problem in that the spike is liable to chip and wear.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A8

Accordingly, the shoes prevent slipping on both grass and hard ground. The cutting-time elongation of the rubber-molded material is set to 280% or more. Therefore, chipping of the spike can be suppressed. The rubber-molded material contains 30 wt% or more of polybutadiene or acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer as a rubber component thereof. Thus, wear of the spike can be suppressed. The difference (h1-h2) between the projected height h1 of the spike and the projected height h2 of the projected portion is set to the range from 1mm

A8 cont'd

to 15mm both inclusive. Therefore, it is comfortable for a golfer to wear the shoes and possible to prevent the grass from being injured.

Please add the paragraph immediately after line 5, on page 6:

A9

Further scope of applicability of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description given hereinafter. However, it should be understood that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this detailed description.

Please add the paragraph immediately after line 6, on page 6:

A10

The present invention will become more fully understood from the detailed description given hereinbelow and the accompanying drawings which are given by way of illustration only, and thus are not limitative of the present invention, and wherein:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A11

Fig. 1 is a bottom view showing golf shoes according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A12

Fig. 2 is a partly enlarged sectional view showing the outsole 1 shown in Fig. 1. As apparent from Figs. 1 and 2, the spike 3 has a screw 6, a disk-like

portion 7, and pins 8. The screw 6 is made of metal. Unshown one end (lower end in Fig. 2) of the screw 6 is embedded in the disk-like portion 7. The spike 3 is fixed to the body 2 by tightening the screw 6 into a screw hole 9 formed in the body 2. Eight pins 8 are formed proximately to the peripheral edge of the disk-like portion 7, with the pins 8 spaced at regular intervals. The disk-like portion 7 and the pins 8 are formed integrally. The lower surface of the disk-like portion 7 and the pins 8 form the portion of the spike 3 that contacts the ground.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

When a golfer is on grass, the pins 8 cut thereinto, thus preventing a golfer's foot from slipping thereon. When a golfer is on hard ground, the lower end of the pins 8, the ground-contact portion 10 of the first projected portion 4, and the ground-contact portion 11 of the second projected portion 5 contact the ground, thus preventing the golfer's foot from slipping thereon. Because the ground-contact portions 10 and 11 have a large area, respectively, as described above, the load is applied to the ground-contact portions 10 and 11 mainly. Accordingly, on hard ground, the golfer is greatly relieved of pressure that is applied upward to the golfer's feet.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The disk-like portion 7 and the pins 8 are composed of a rubber-molded material. As the rubber-molded material, polybutadiene (BR) or an acrylonitrile-

butadiene compolymer (NBR) is used. The polybutadiene and the acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer improve the wear resistance of the spike 3. Other rubber may be used in combination with the polybutadiene or the acrylonitrile-butadience copolymer to improve the processability of the rubber-molded material and reduce the cost of the material thereof. Rubber to be used in combintion with the polybutadience or the acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer includes natural rubber include polyisoprene, styrene-butadiene copolymer, chloroprene rubber, ethylene-propylene-diene copolymer, butyl rubber, acrylic rubber, epichlorohydrin rubber, polysulfide rubber, and polyurethane.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The hardness (JIS-C) of the rubber-molded material composing the disk-like potion 7 and the pin 8 is set to the range from 35 to 95 both inclusive. When the hardness of the rubber-molded material is set to 35 or more, the pin 8 is prevented from becoming too soft and thus cuts into the grass easily. Accordingly, the golfer's foot can be prevented from slipping on the grass. When the hardness of the rubber-molded material is set to 95 or less, the pin 8 is prevented from becoming too hard and thus flexes on hard ground. Consequently, the pin 8 contacts the hard ground in a large area and has a high gripping force. Accordingly, the golfer's foot can be prevented from slipping on hard ground. The flexure of the pins 8 relieves the golfer of the pressure that is applied upward to the golfer's feet from the hard ground. That is, the shoes feel

comfortable to wear. From this point of view, the hardness of the rubber-molded material is set favorably to the range from 40 to 90 both inclusive and more favorably to the range from 45 to 65 both inclusive.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In addition to the above-described rubbers, an appropriate amount of the following additives may be added to the rubber-molded material composing the disk-like portion 7 and the pins 8 as necessary: a filler such as carbon black, silica, calcium carbonate, and clay; and additives such as a cross-linking agent, a vulcanizing accelerator, zinc white, stearic acid, an aging resistor, a softening agent, a plasticizer, a sililation reagent, a silane coupling agent.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The difference (h1-h2) between the projected height h1 (see Fig. 2) of the spike 3 and the projected height h2 of the first projected portion 4 as well as the second projected portion 5 is set to the range from 0mm to 15mm both inclusive. By setting the height difference (h1-h2) to 0mm or more, the pins 8 can cut into the grass easily. Therefore, the golfer's foot can be prevented from slipping on the grass. By setting the height difference (h1-h2) to 15mm or less, it is possible to prevent the spike 3 from injuring the grass and allow the golfer to walk stably on hard ground. From this point of view, the height difference (h1-h2) is set

A17 cont'd

favorably to the range from 2mm to 8mm both inclusive and more favorably to the range from 4mm to 6mm both inclusive.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A18

As described previously, the disk-like portion 7 and the pins 8 of the spike 3 are composed of a rubber-molded material, and the screw 6 of the spike 3 is made of metal. However, the material of the spike 3 is not limited to these materials. For example, the screw 6 may be formed of a hard synthetic resin, and the upper part of the disk-like portion 7 may be formed of metal. In any of these modified cases, the part of the spike 3 that contacts the ground is required to be composed of the rubber-molded material.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A19

The material of the body 2 is not limited to a specific one but composed of a crosslinked rubber equivalent to that of the outsole of conventional shoes. The hardness (JIS-C) of the body 2 is set favorably to the range from 20 to 80 both inclusive, more favorably to the range from 25 to 60 both inclusive, and most favorably to the range from 25 to 45 both inclusive. If the hardness is less than the lower limit of the above range, the stability of the shoes on hard ground may deteriorate. On the other hand, if the hardness is more than the upper limit of the above range, the golf shoes have a deteriorated follow-up performance for